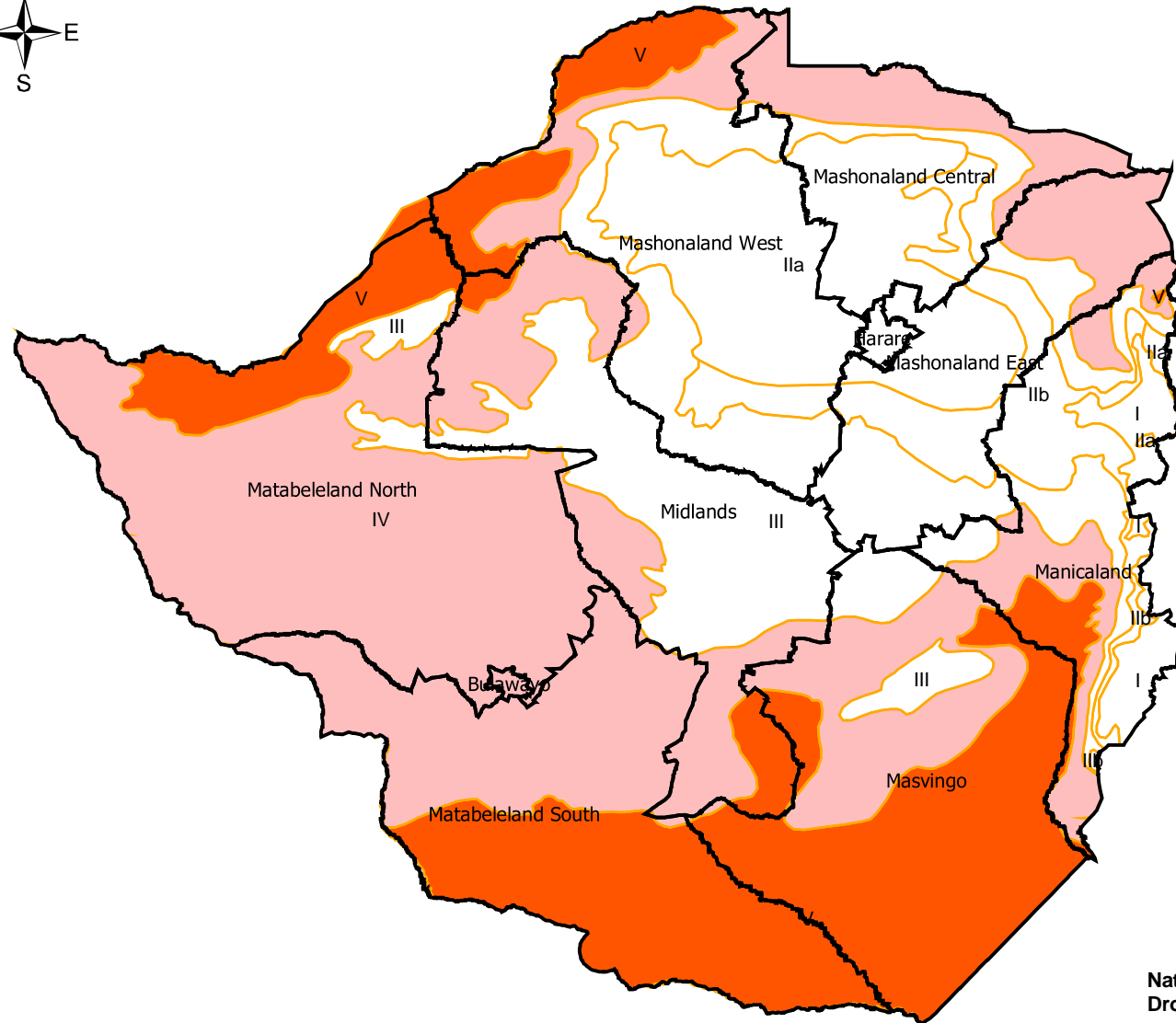


DROUGHT PRONE AREAS OF ZIMBABWE



RELATED FARMING SYSTEMS

I Specialized and Diversified Farming Region: Rainfall in this region is high (more than 1000 mm per annum in areas lying below 1700 m altitude, and more than 900 mm per annum at greater altitudes), normally with some precipitation in all months of the year. Temperatures are normally comparatively low and the rainfall is consequently highly effective enabling afforestation, fruit and intensive livestock production to be practiced. In frost-free areas plantation crops such as tea, coffee and macadamia nuts can be grown, where the mean annual rainfall below 1400 mm, supplementary irrigation of these plantation crops is required for top yields.

IIa Intensive Farming Region: Rainfall is confined to summer and is moderately high (750-1000 mm). Two sub-regions have been defined. Sub-region IIa receives an average of at least 18 rainy pentads per season and normally enjoys reliable conditions, rarely experiencing severe dry spells in summer. The region is suitable for intensive systems of farming based on crops and /or livestock production.

IIb Sub-region IIb receives an average of 16-18 rainy pentads per season and is subject either to rather more severe dry spells during the rainy season or to the occurrence of relatively short rainy seasons. In either event, crop yields in certain years will be affected, but not sufficiently and frequently to change the overall utilization from intensive systems of farming.

III Semi-Intensive Farming Region: rainfall in this region is moderate in total amount (650-800 mm), but, because much of it is accounted for by infrequent heavy falls and temperatures are generally high, its effectiveness is reduced. This region will receive an average of 14-16 rainy pentads per season. The region is also subject fairly severe mid-season dry spells and therefore is marginal for maize, tobacco and cotton production, or for enterprises based on crop production alone. The farming systems, in conformity with the natural conditioning factors, should therefore be based on both livestock production (assisted by the production of fodder crops) and cash crops under good management on soils of high available moisture potential.

IV Semi-Extensive Farming Region: This region experiences fairly low total rainfall (450-650 mm) and is subject to periodic seasonal droughts and severe dry spells during the rainy season. The rainfall is too low and uncertain for cash cropping except in certain very favourable localities, where limited drought-resistant crops can afford a sideline. The farming system should be based on livestock production, but it can be intensified to some extent by the growing of drought-resistant fodder crops.

V Extensive Farming Region: The rainfall in this region is too low and erratic for the reliable production of even drought-resistant fodder and grain crops, and farming has to be based on the utilization of veld alone. The extensive form of cattle ranching or game ranching is the only sound farming system for this region. Included in this region are areas of below 900 m altitude, where the mean rainfall is below 650 mm in the Zambezi Valley and below 600 mm in the Sabi_limpopo valleys.

NOTE: A rainy pentad is defined as the centre one of three five-day periods (pentads) which together receive more than 40 mm and two of which receive at least 8 mm of rainfall.

Natural Regions and Drought Prone Areas

- Provinces2002
- natural regions
- drought prone areas**
- Less Severe
- More Severe

Produced by OCHA

Source: Surveyor General and The Metrologoccal Department

The designations used and the presentations of this map do not imply the expressions of any opinion whatsoever of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area.